Demand and supply of coal

†278. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total quality of coal produced by Government and private companies in the country during the last three years;

(b) the total quantity of coal imported in the country during the last five years; and

(c) the measures being taken by Government to maintain balance between demand and supply of coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) The total quantity of raw coal produced by Government and private companies in the country during the last three years is as under:—

Production of raw coal (Figs, in Million' Tonnes)			
Company	2005-06	2004-05	2003-04
Government	381.334	360.782	341.832
Private All	25.705	21.833	19.414
India	407.039	382.615	361.246

(b) the total quantity of coal imported in the country during the last five years is as under:—

Year	Quantity Imported (In Million Tonnes)
2001-02	20.548
2002-03	23.260
2003-04	21.683
2004-05	28.950
2005-06	38.586

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) The following steps are taken to increase domestic coal production to reduce the gap between demand and supply of coal:—

1. 97 mining projects are envisaged to be undertaken in Xth Plan to produce incremental output. New projects will also be undertaken during XIth Plan.
2. Production from the existing and completed projects is planned to be enhanced by:—
   (i) Improvement in equipment utilization
   (ii) Mechanization/modernization of existing mines
   (iii) Timely implementation of projects
   (iv) All new mines are being planned with mechanization.
   (v) Increasing productivity in underground and opencast mines.
3. Allocation of captive coal blocks to public/private sector consumers for captive end use.

Quality of telecom services in Orissa

279. MS. PRAMILABOHIDAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Orissa is among the four worst States as far as quality of telecom services is concerned;

(b) whether there are more than 800 service providers in the country, but majority of them provide poor quality service; and

(c) if so, the action plan of Government to address these issues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD: (a) As per the quarterly Performance Monitoring Report (PMR) published by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) for the quarter ending 30.09.06 for basic and cellular mobile service providers, the quality of service being provided by service providers in Orissa is at a comparable level with the Quality of Service provided by service providers in other service areas.

(b) As of 30th September, 2006,129 service providers were providing